

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092224

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KREPS, JUANITA) GW

SUBJECT: SECRETARY KREPS' VISIT TO BERLIN

1. REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
JUANITA M. KREPS, SCULPTURE PRESENTATION, BERLIN OPERA
HOUSE, FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978.

MR. MAYOR, MR. MCKAY, MR. PALM, MR. BAKER, DISTINGUISHED
GUESTS:

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THE CELEBRATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN GERMANY IS ALMOST OVER.
THIS IS THE MOMENT WHEN OUR CELEBRATION REACHES OUT FROM
OFFICIAL HALLS INTO THIS SHRINE TO THE FREE IMAGINATION.
HERE BERLINERS COME TO SEEK DETACHMENT FROM DAILY CONCERNS.
HERE, AS WELL AS IN THE CITY AROUND US, WE SEE THEIR IDEAS
AND PERCEPTIONS FREELY EXPRESSED.

WHEN LOOKING AT THIS SCULPTURE, THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN WILL
SEE A SYMBOL OF THE FREEDOM -- THE FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC
EXPRESSION -- WHICH WE IN THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES ARE SO
PRIVILEGED TO ENJOY.

IN THIS GIFT TO YOUR CITY, THE GERMAN AND AMERICAN BUSINESS-

MEN OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAY THEIR HIGHEST
RESPECTS TO BERLIN. THESE INDUSTRIALISTS HAVE ELECTED
TO GATHER HERE TO COMMEMORATE AN IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY,
AND THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO LEAVE A LASTING MEMORIAL TO
THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF THE FREE PEOPLE OF BERLIN.

I CONGRATULATE THEM ON THIS GENEROUS AND THOUGHTFUL
GESTURE, AND I CONGRATULATE GEORGE BAKER ON HIS INSPIR-
ATION AND CRAFTSMANSHIP.

2. THIS SPEECH SHOULD BE EMBARGOED UNTIL JUST PRIOR
TO DELIVERY.

3. STATE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES WILL
FOLLOW. VANCE

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